



## **Brownfields 2021 Job Training Grant Fact Sheet**

### ***Groundwork Rhode Island, Providence Metropolitan Region, RI***

#### **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002, as amended by the Brownfields Utilization, Investment and Local Development Act of 2018, was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfield sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through five competitive grant programs: Multipurpose Grants, Assessment Grants, Revolving Loan Fund Grants, Cleanup Grants, and Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant funds are provided to nonprofit organizations and other eligible entities to recruit and train unemployed and underemployed residents from communities affected by environmental pollution, economic disinvestment, and brownfields and place them in environmental jobs. Since the program was created in 1998, EPA has funded 335 job training grants totaling over \$72 million through the Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program. A total of 18,541 individuals have been trained and 13,751 individuals have been placed in full-time careers related to land remediation and environmental health and safety. The average starting wage for these jobs is more than \$14 an hour. This equates to a cumulative placement rate of approximately 74%.

#### **Job Training Grant**

*\$200,000.00*

EPA has selected Groundwork Rhode Island for an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant. Groundwork Rhode Island plans to train 56 students and place at least 31 in environmental jobs. The training program includes 185 hours of instruction, including: 40-hour HAZWOPER; OSHA-10 Construction Site Safety; Confined Space Entry; Lead Renovation, Remodeling, and Painting; Forklift Operator; Introduction to Brownfields and Soil Sampling; Introduction to Indoor Air Quality, Mold, and Vapor Intrusion; Introduction to Wastewater Treatment; Large Green Infrastructure Maintenance; Urban Tree Stewards; Water Testing and Sampling; and Green Roofs and Energy Star Design. Students who complete the training will earn up to four federal certifications. Groundwork Rhode Island is targeting the Providence Metropolitan Area, including the cities of Providence, Pawtucket, Woonsocket, and Central Falls. Key partners include the Providence Housing Authority, Progreso Latino, Providence Stormwater Innovation Center, Green Site Services Group, Inc., the Genesis Center, Children's Friend, the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center, Aerotek, RI Housing, and Tremco Roofing and Building Maintenance.

#### **Contacts**

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team

(617) 918-1696

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Web site

(<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-connecticut-maine-massachusetts-new-hampshire-rhode#pane-1> )

Grant Recipient: Groundwork Rhode Island, RI

(401) 305-7174

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.